

EDUCATION AND TRAINING: PARENT EDUCATION

Child protection at school is a partnership with parents. A suggestion is for parents, upon admission at least or annually, to sign a “Ready to Learn” contract that states basic needs that parents will meet, such as nurturance, care and attention at home.

Parent education can be achieved in several ways:

- Connect parent education to the READY TO LEARN contract

Sample READY TO LEARN contract **Safe and secure children lead to better learning and better outcomes.**

[School] expects all students to punctually arrive every day.
[School] expects that students will come to school after a good breakfast and good night's sleep.
[School] expects all students to be clean and dressed appropriately.
[School] expects access to parents or guardians when needed.
[School] expects drivers to abide by rules for driving and parking.
[School] expects all students to arrive correctly equipped for lessons:
 *Pen, Pencil, eraser and sharpener
 *Ruler
 *Calculator
 *Student Planner
 *Exercise books, text books and files for the day
 *PE equipment
[School] expects all students to be polite, co-operative and to show respect for all members of the
[School] Community.

At the end of the day we all help others by leaving rooms and the campus tidy.

- Before beginning the lessons, conduct a gathering to inform the parents and encourage them to participate in their children's education by reading the parent letters and, for elementary students, to complete the homework together with their child. These sessions could be evening meetings (can include MDT members), morning coffees, or formal parent education classes.
- Promoting parent support and buy-in can be achieved through the annual distribution of school policy to all families during the admission process and returning families annually.
- Emphasize to parents that this is a PREVENTION program

Concepts to include in advocacy and training of parents:

- Understanding of specific policy and procedures of the school
- Train to awareness of the issue
 - Signs and symptoms of abuse
 - Statistics of incidence and prevalence
 - Awareness of risks to which students are exposed – globally and locally
 - Vulnerabilities of international school students growing up in international communities
 - How to talk with your children – prevention strategies and empowering children
 - Handling disclosure and reporting as a parent
- Inform parents of community resources for parents and to be used by school (especially domestic violence issues)
- Provide parents with a list of resources, including for domestic violence needs. If possible, find ways that parents can meet these resources, such as inviting the resources to a parent evening to talk about relevant domestic violence and abuse issues.
- Provide parents with information for how to keep safe and keep their children safe.